

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 262**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Waldron**

February 7, 2013

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An act to amend Section 56001 of the Government Code, relating to local government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 262, as introduced, Waldron. Local government: organization.

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 governs the procedures for the formation, change of organization, and reorganization of cities and special districts, as specified. The act makes certain findings and declarations relating to local government organization, including, among other things, that it is the policy of the state to encourage orderly growth and development, and recognition that the logical formation and determination of the boundaries of local agencies is an important factor in promoting orderly development, as specified.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 56001 of the Government Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 56001. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that it is the
- 4 policy of the state to encourage orderly growth and development,

1 which are essential to the social, fiscal, and economic well-being  
2 of the state. The Legislature recognizes that the logical formation  
3 and determination of local agency boundaries is an important factor  
4 in promoting orderly development and in balancing that  
5 development with sometimes competing state interests of  
6 discouraging urban sprawl, preserving open-space and prime  
7 agricultural lands, and efficiently extending government services.  
8 The Legislature also recognizes that providing housing for persons  
9 and families of all incomes is an important factor in promoting  
10 orderly development. Therefore, the Legislature further finds and  
11 declares that this policy should be effected by the logical formation  
12 and modification of the boundaries of local agencies, with a  
13 preference granted to accommodating additional growth within,  
14 or through the expansion of, the boundaries of those local agencies  
15 ~~which~~ *that* can best accommodate and provide necessary  
16 governmental services and housing for persons and families of all  
17 incomes in the most efficient manner feasible.

18 ~~The~~

19 *(b) The* Legislature recognizes that urban population densities  
20 and intensive residential, commercial, and industrial development  
21 necessitate a broad spectrum and high level of community services  
22 and controls. The Legislature also recognizes that when areas  
23 become urbanized to the extent that they need the full range of  
24 community services, priorities are required to be established  
25 regarding the type and levels of services that the residents of an  
26 urban community need and desire; that community service  
27 priorities be established by weighing the total community service  
28 needs against the total financial resources available for securing  
29 community services; and that those community service priorities  
30 are required to reflect local circumstances, conditions, and limited  
31 financial resources. The Legislature finds and declares that a single  
32 multipurpose governmental agency is accountable for community  
33 service needs and financial resources and, therefore, may be the  
34 best mechanism for establishing community service priorities  
35 especially in urban areas. Nonetheless, the Legislature recognizes  
36 the critical role of many limited purpose agencies, especially in  
37 rural communities. The Legislature also finds that, whether  
38 governmental services are proposed to be provided by a  
39 single-purpose agency, several agencies, or a multipurpose agency,

- 1 responsibility should be given to the agency or agencies that can
- 2 best provide government services.

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